

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
STATE: TENNESSEE

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL CARE  
AND SERVICES PROVIDED

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4.b. Early and periodic screening and diagnosis of individuals under 21 years of age, and treatment of conditions found.

(5) Health care services provided in a school setting:

1. Address the physical or mental disabilities of a child;
2. Are recommended by health care professionals; and
3. Are identified in a child's Individual Education Plan (IEP)

School-based services are delivered by therapy and behavioral health providers who meet federal requirements specified in 42 CFR 440.110 and 440.130, respectively, and who practice within the scope of the practitioner's license and accreditation pursuant to State law. Tennessee's provider qualifications include:

1. Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant must have graduated from a school of physical therapy accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). Additionally, they must pass an examination conducted by the Committee on Physical Therapy to determine fitness for practice. Tennessee's accrediting process for physical therapist has been accepted by CMS.
2. Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapist Assistant must have successfully completed the academic requirements of an educational program in occupational therapy approved by the committee of occupational therapy and accredited by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association in collaboration with the American Occupational Therapy Association. Additionally, they must pass the Occupational Therapy Registration Examination administered by the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board.
3. Speech Language Pathologist must possess at least a master's degree in speech language pathology from an accredited institution. Additionally, they must possess current Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) issued through the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) in the area or licensure, or have completed the equivalent educational requirement and work experience necessary for it or have completed the academic program.
4. Audiologist must possess at least a master's degree in audiology from an accredited institution. Additionally, they must possess current Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) issued through the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) in the area or licensure, or have completed the equivalent educational requirement and work experience necessary for it or have completed the academic program.

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5. Professional Counselor must have completed sixty (60) graduate semester hours, based upon a program of study with a major in counseling, completed from an institution accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Counsel for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Program or a comparable accrediting body. Additionally, the professional must have two years of post master professional experience and pass an examination given by the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC).
6. Certified or Licensed Social Workers must possess a master's or doctorate degree in social work granted by a university, college or school of social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. For Licensure, a Clinical Social Worker must be currently registered with the board as a certified social worker and must have had two years of supervised post-masters' clinical experience accrued entirely after receipt of CMSW which was supervised by a LCSW.
7. Psychologist must have one of the following: a) documentation of a doctoral degree from an educational program which is listed in the latest edition of "Designated Doctoral Programs in Psychology" compiled jointly by Association of State and Provisional Psychology Board. (ASPPB) and the Canadian Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (CRHSPP); or b) documentation of a doctoral degree from a program designated as a professional psychology program, by the Committee on Accreditation of the APA.
8. Psychiatrists are qualified to provide services if they meet the following requirements: 1) are licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Tennessee; and possess a valid license from the Tennessee Licensing Board for the Healing Arts.
9. Psychological Examiner must have had two (2) academic years of graduate training in psychology, including a master's degree, from an accredited educational institution, pass an examination, written or oral, or both as the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology deems necessary, not considered to be engaged in unethical practices, and has not failed an examination within the preceding six (6) months given by the board.
10. School Psychologists as licensed by the Tennessee Department of Education.
11. School Counselor as licensed by the Tennessee Department of Education.

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Services provided under the school-based health care services program are:

**Physical Therapy Services:** assessing, preventing or alleviating movement dysfunction and related functional problems; obtaining interpreting and integrating information relative to the student.

*Physical Therapy services include:*

1. Neuromotor or neurodevelopmental assessment;
2. Assessing and treating problems related to musculo-skeletal status;
3. Gait, balance, and coordination skills;
4. Postural control;
5. Cardio-pulmonary function;
6. Training an individual to perform activities of daily living;
7. Sensory motor and related central nervous system function;
8. Oral motor assessment;
9. Adaptive equipment assessment;
10. Gross and fine motor development;
11. Observation of orthotic devices; and
12. Prosthetic training.

**Occupational Therapy Services:** Assessing, improving, developing, or restoring functions impaired or lost through illness, injury or deprivation, improving ability to perform tasks for independent functioning when functions are lost or impaired, preventing through early intervention, initial or further impairment or loss of function.

*Occupational therapy services include:*

1. Training an individual to perform activities of daily living;
2. Sensory or perceptual motor development and integration;
3. Neuromuscular and musculo-skeletal status (muscle strength and tone, reflex, joint range of motion, postural control, endurance);
4. Gross and fine motor development;
5. Feeding or oral motor function;
6. Adaptive equipment assessment;
7. Adaptive skills needed to function in the school environment, such as play and some/all activities of daily living and/or instrumental activities of daily living,
8. Prosthetic or orthotic training;
9. Observation of orthotic devices;

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10. Neuromotor or neurodevelopmental assessment;
11. Gait, balance and coordination skills; and
12. Postural control

**Speech/Language Therapy Services:** Assessment of children with speech and/or language disorders; diagnosis and appraisal of specific speech and/or language disorders; referral for medical and other professional attention, necessary for the rehabilitation of speech and/or language disorders; provision of speech or language services for the prevention of communicative disorders. The speech language pathologist must bill for time spent in hands-on activities with the student. This includes time spent assisting the student with learning to use adaptive equipment and assistive technology.

*Speech therapy services include:*

1. Expressive language;
2. Receptive language;
3. Auditory processing, discrimination, perception and memory;
4. Vocal quality;
5. Resonance patterns;
6. Phonological;
7. Pragmatic language;
8. Rhythm or fluency;
9. Feeding and swallowing assessment; and
10. Hearing screening,
11. Adaptive skills needed to function in a school environment such as communication with peers and adults.

**Hearing or Audiology Services:** Assessment of children with hearing loss; determination of the range, nature and degree of hearing loss, including the referral for medical or other professional attention for restoration or rehabilitation due to hearing disorders. Provision of rehabilitative activities, such as language restoration or rehabilitation, auditory training, hearing evaluation and speech conversation, and determination of the child's need for individual amplification.

*Audiology services include:*

1. Auditory acuity (including pure tone air and bone conduction), speech detection, and speech reception threshold;
2. Auditory discrimination in quiet and noise;
3. Impedance audiometry, including tympanometry and acoustic reflex;
4. Hearing aid check when it has been at least 6 months from the date of the initial fitting;
5. Central auditory function;

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6. Testing to determine the child's need for individual amplification; selection and fitting of aid(s);
7. Evaluation of the child wearing aid(s);
8. Auditory training; and
9. Training for the use of augmentative communication devices.

**Specialized Transportation Services:**

Specialized transportation services include round-trip transportation to receive and from Medicaid approved school health services. This service is limited to transportation of an eligible child to health related services as listed in a student's Individual Education Program (IEP).

The special transportation is Medicaid reimbursable if:

1. It is provided to a Medicaid eligible EPSDT child who is a student in a public school in Tennessee;
2. It is being provided on a day when the child receives an IEP health-related Medicaid covered service;
3. The Medicaid covered service is included in the child's IEP;
4. The student's need for specialized transportation service is documented in the child's IEP; and
5. The driver must have a valid driver's license.

Specialized transportation services are defined as transportation that requires a specially equipped vehicle, or the use of specialized equipment to ensure a child is taken to and from the child's residence to school or to a community provider's office for IEP health related services.

1. Transportation provided by or under contract with the school, to and from the student's place of residence, to the school where the student receives one of the health related services covered by Title XIX;
2. Transportation provided by or under contract with the school, to and from the student's place of residence to the office of a medical provider who has a contract with the school to provide one of the health related services covered by Title XIX; or
3. Transportation provided by or under contract with the school from the student's place of residence to the office of a medical provider who has a contract with the school to provide one of the health related services covered by Title XIX and returns to school.

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Specialized transportation services will not be Medicaid reimbursable if the child does not receive a Medicaid covered service on the same day. When claiming these costs as direct services, each school district will be responsible for maintaining written documentation, such as a trip log, for individual trips provided. No payment will be made to, or for parents providing transportation.

**Behavioral Health Services:**

Behavioral health services are counseling for children and include individual, group and family therapy. Where family counseling is necessary, counseling provided to family members is for the direct benefit of the child and will be claimed as a service to the child alone. Behavioral health services include necessary assessments and reassessments where they result in the provision of IEP services. These services are covered in accordance with the requirements of 42 CFR 440.130. Behavioral health services are provided by licensed social workers, psychologists, and psychiatrists who are licensed in the state of Tennessee or are licensed in another state, but meet the licensure requirements of the state of Tennessee.

**Nursing Services:**

Nursing services consist of medical and remedial care provided by licensed practitioners to children with medical problems, who require these services during the school day. Nursing services are identified in the child's IEP. Nurses provide appropriate monitoring of the child in school for ongoing problems related to the treatment or medications. Nurses also provide instruction to the child, teacher or other caretaker in nursing self-care related to medication or treatment administration as part of a billable service.

Nursing Services include:

1. Assessment, treatment referral and follow up needed for the child's medical condition;
2. Skilled, nursing care (e.g., catheterization, dressing changes, suctioning, injections, Tracheotomy care);
3. Administration of medication during the school day when authorized by the child's primary care provider and parent in situations where child is unable to administer own medication (e.g., insulin injections and G Tube);

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4. Administration of procedures (e.g., tube feedings, scheduled nebulizer treatments, blood glucose check) when authorized by child's physician;
5. Assessment of the capabilities of the child to carry out self nursing care, such as self administer medication, or other specific physician ordered treatment (e.g. an older teen child who may be capable of self-catheterization); and
6. Collaborative management of chronic illness conditions (e.g., seizure management, identification of symptoms or changes in conditions and need for change in treatment).

Nursing Provider Qualifications:

Nursing services must be provided by a professional who holds a valid State license as a Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse or a Nurse Practitioner. Clinicians will not provide services outside the scope of their license.

Licensure requirements for nurses in any setting are as follows:

1. Registered Nurses hold a diploma from a four-year accredited high school, or the equivalent thereof, must have successfully completed a course of study in an approved school of nursing and have a passing score for each series of the Tennessee Licensure Examination as determined by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.
2. Licensed Practical Nurse must have completed the twelfth grade or its equivalent, must have successfully completed a course of study in an approved school of nursing and have a passing score for each series of the Tennessee Licensure Examination as determined by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.
3. Nurse Practitioner must have current licensure as a Registered Nurse under TCA, Title 63, Chapter 7, must be a graduate from a program conferring a master's or doctoral degree in nursing, preparation in specialized practitioner's skills at the master's, post-master's, doctoral or post-doctoral level, including at least three (3) quarter hours of pharmacology instruction or its equivalent, and current national certification in the appropriate nursing specialty area. Those applicants intending to prescribe, issue or administer controlled substances in accordance with TCA 63-7-123(b)(2) shall maintain their Drug Enforcement Administration Certificate to Prescribe Controlled Substances at their practice location.